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PRESS RELEASE

January 6, 2005

MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO TRANSPORTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

RE: UNITED STATES v. WILLIAM H. HAYES

Michael A. Battle, the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced that William H. Hayes, age 56, of 7025 Country Road 2, Bloomfield, New York, pled guilty in front of United States District Court Judge Charles J. Siragusa to transporting child pornography in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A(a)(1), which charges a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 5 years and a maximum term of imprisonment of 30 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who is handling the case, stated that between January 2003 and March 2003, Hayes transported by computer numerous child pornography images to an undercover agent who Hayes believed was a 14 year old female. Hayes agreed in his plea agreement that many of the child pornography images

involved minors under the age of twelve years and portrayed sadistic conduct or other depictions of violence, and that he engaged in a pattern of activity involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a minor.

The plea agreement anticipates that Hayes will be sentenced to 121 months to 151 months in prison. Hayes is currently being detained pending sentencing.

The conviction in this case was the culmination of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Peter Ahearn.

Sentencing for Hayes is scheduled for April 8, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. in front of Judge Siragusa.

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